

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 184229 TOSEC 190141

EXDIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM CAIRO DATED JULY 25, 1976
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

S E C R E T CAIRO 9971

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AEMR, PFOR, LE, EG
SUBJ: BEIRUT EVACUATION

REF: STATE 184205 (TOSEC 190133)

1. WITH SADAT AND FAHMY STILL IN ALEXANDRIA, I MET WITH MUHAMMED RIAD
AS SOON AS HE CAME TO HIS OFFICE THIS MORNING AND GAVE HIM YOUR
MESSAGE. HE UNDERTOOK PASS IT TO FAHMY AND THE PRESIDENT AT ONCE.

2. RIAD EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION THAT SATISFACTORY EVACUATION
ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING WORKED OUT WITH THE PLO. HE DID COMMENT THAT
HE WONDERED IF EVACUATION WAS REALLY NECESSARY, SINCE TODAY'S NEWS
SUGGESTS THAT THERE MAY BE SOME PROMISING DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANESE
SITUATION - AL-KHOLI HAD APPARENTLY SUCCEEDED IN OBTAINING MARONITE

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AGREEMENT TO A CEASE-FIRE AND THE AL FORCES WERE ALSO ESTABLISHING

THEMSELVES MORE SECURELY IN THE BEIRUT BUFFER ZONE. I REMINDED HIM THAT OUR EVACUATION IS PROMPTED MAINLY BY THE INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT LIVING CONDITIONS IN BEIRUT AND THAT WE ARE NOT CLOSING OUR EMBASSY THERE. WE ARE SIMPLY DOING WHAT OTHERS HAVE ALREADY DONE. RIAD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD, NOTING THAT HE HAD JUST HEARD NEWS REPORT OF THE SOVIET DECISION TO REDUCE SHARPLY THEIR EMBASSY STAFF IN BEIRUT. IN ANY CASE, HE OBSERVED SADLY, NO ONE CAN REALLY BE SURE THAT THIS LATEST CEASE-FIRE WILL BE ANY MORE DURABLE THAN PREVIOUS ONES.

3. RIAD LEAVES FOR ALEXANDRIA THIS AFTERNOON TO BE THERE FOR SADAT'S JULY 26 SPEECH TO THE ALEXANDRIA UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, LOCAL ASU REPS, THE CABINET, ETC. HE WILL NOT BE BACK UNTIL TUESDAY MORNING, BUT FAHMY'S DEPUTY CHEF DE CABINET, AMR MUSA, WILL BE ON HAND TO RELAY ANY MESSAGES. EILTS UNQUOTE ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

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